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ADLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

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To:- The Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Adlington.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December 1959.

The number of live births attributable to the District was 3 more than in the previous year, giving a Birth Rate of 14.8 per 1000 population as compared with the Birth Rate for the country as a whole of 16.5.

The number of deaths attributable to the District was 5 more than in the year 1958, giving a Death Rate of 12.0 per 1000 population as compared with the Death Rate for the country as a whole of 11.6. It should be noted that 45 of the deaths which occurred were of persons 65 years of age and over. Of these, 9 were 70 or more, 11 were 75 or more, 9 were 80 or more, and 5 were over 85 years of age.

In regard to causes of death, whilst there was the same number of deaths from Coronary Heart Disease as in the previous year, the number from other forms of heart disease was increased by 6. The number of deaths from malignant neoplasms was increased by one. It is pleasing to report that there were no deaths from tuberculosis. Deaths from other causes show only minor variations.

It is pleasing to report that there were no deaths of infants under the age of one year during 1959, there was one infant death in 1958.

During the year one stillbirth was registered, as against none the previous year.

In regard to notifications of Infectious Diseases, 58 cases were notified, of which 2 were Poliomyelitis, 2 Tuberculosis (one being a transfer from the Glasgow area), 1 Scarlet Fever and 53 Measles. In addition, there was one fatal case of Poliomyelitis which was not notified.

During the year 3 houses scheduled for Slum Clearance have been closed by the Council. It is hoped that other scheduled houses will be dealt with in this way during 1960.

Water samples taken during the year were found to be satisfactory. A water shortage occurred in the Blackrod supply, to which reference is made in the body of the report.

The firm of Consultant Engineers appointed by the Council to prepare a report on the whole system of sewerage and sewage disposal, have carried out an intensive survey and recordings have been taken of the flow of incoming sewage and samples analysed. It is hoped that the Consultants' report will be presented to the Council during 1960.

Implementation of the Clean Air Act 1956 is a matter which I consider still requires further consideration. Pollution of the atmosphere is now regarded as a major cause of ill-health and should be regarded as a matter of much importance.

Attention is still being given to the implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the retailers are co-operating in this matter.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Officers of the Council for their willing assistance at all times. My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the support and consideration extended to me.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1960.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ADLINGTON

VITAL STATISTICS 1959

Area	...	...	1062 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate mid-1959)		...	4330
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	1448
Rateable Value at 1st April 1959	...	...	£34,043
Product of 1d Rate	...	...	£136-0-0d.

Births

		Male	Female	Total
Live births - Legitimate	...	29	35	64
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-
		29	35	64

Birth Rate per 1000 population - Crude = 14.8
Adjusted = 15.8

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live
births = nil.

Stillbirths	...	...	-	1	1
Total live and still births	...	...			65
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total births			=	15.4	

Deaths

Deaths of Infants under one year	...	...	nil
do. four weeks	...	...	nil
do. one week	...	...	nil

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births:	Total	...	nil
	Legitimate..		nil
	Illegitimate		nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	...	nil
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Early neo-natal	ditto	...	nil
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Pre-natal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births)... 15.4

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	nil
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Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births	...	nil
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			<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths	28	24	52

Death Rate per 1000 population - Crude = 12.0
Adjusted = 13.3

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	8
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do.	Measles
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do. Whooping Cough 1

do.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)
-----	---------------------------	-----	-----	-----

do.	Acute Poliomyelitis	1
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Causes of Death

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Coronary Disease (angina) . . .	4	4	8
Other Heart Disease . . .	6	6	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease . . .	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system . . .	5	3	8
Other circulatory diseases . . .	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasms - Stomach . . .	1	-	1
Lung . . .	2	1	3
Breast . . .	-	1	1
Other . . .	2	1	3
Other respiratory diseases . . .	1	-	1
Stomach Ulcer . . .	-	1	1
Bronchitis . . .	2	-	2
Acute Poliomyelitis . . .	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases . . .	2	2	4
Suicide . . .	-	1	1
Motor Accident . . .	1	-	1
All other accidents . . .	-	1	1
	<u>28</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>52</u>

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total	Neo-natal		
	No. regist- ered	Rate per 1000	No. regist- ered	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. regist- ered	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of deaths regist- ered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths regist- ered.	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of deaths regist- ered	Rate per 1000 live births
Year 1959	64	14.8	52	12.0	1	15.4	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Year 1958	61	14.4	47	11.1	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	16	1	16
Year 1957	56	13.4	62	14.9	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Year 1956	67	16.1	49	11.8	1	15	nil	nil	4	50	2	30
Year 1955	50	12.2	52	12.7	1	20	nil	nil	2	40	1	20
Year 1954	64	15.6	47	11.4	1	15	nil	nil	5	78	3	47
Average 5 years 1954 - 1958	59.6	14.3	51.4	12.4	0.6	10	nil	nil	2.4	38.8	1.4	22.6

Adjusted(Live birth-rate (comparability factor 1.07) = 15.8 per 1000
(Death-rate (comparability factor 1.11) = 13.3 per 1000

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE

Staff

Medical Officer of Health :- Dr. J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S.
D.P.D.
Public Health Inspector (Part-time):- Norman R. Bolton, R.S.I.

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological Laboratory, Preston Royal Infirmary.
Public Health Laboratory, Preston Royal Infirmary.
Pathological Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

The laboratory service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and caters for every aspect of the Public Health work of a Local Authority related to the bacteriological and pathological examination of samples and specimens.

Ambulance Facilities

Provided by the Lancashire County Council Ambulance Service.
(Chorley Depot) Telephone: Chorley 2744.
All the ambulance vehicles are now radio-controlled from the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

Nursing in the Home.

There is one "District Nurse" practising in the area. She is
Nurse I. M. Darley, 1 Mayfield Avenue, Adlington. Telephone: Adlington 228.

Treatment Clinics

The "Minor Ailment" Clinic is held at 20 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.
Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental and Eye, etc.) are held
at Chorley and attended by Practitioners of Specialist status.
Attendance is by appointment via School Medical Staff.

Tuberculosis Clinics.

The Chest Clinic, 34 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.
A Chest Physician (Dr. Nicholson) attends.
This Clinic is also used as a consultant clinic for chest conditions
other than tuberculosis.

Hospital Facilities .

Chorley and District Hospital.
Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.
Wigan Infirmary.
Bolton Infirmary.
Preston Royal Infirmary.
Sharoe Green Hospital, Fulwood.
Hospital, Heath Charnock.
Whelley Hospital, Wigan.
Isolation Hospital, Deepdale, Preston.

All administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

These Services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Domiciliary Facilities.

There is now no County Midwife resident in the District. The service
is provided from adjacent areas.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The large majority of the expectant mothers in the area attend the ante-natal clinic at 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, and avail themselves of the facilities provided by the Lancashire County Divisional Health Service.

Maternity Beds.

Normal accommodation is available at Chorley and District Hospital and Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley. Other hospitals are also available.

Infant Welfare Centres

An Infant Welfare Centre is held weekly (Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.) at the Christ Church Schoolroom, Adlington, and is attended fortnightly by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council, as well as the County Health Visitor. The Medical Officer is Dr. Eileen M. Beirne.

Health Visitor.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs. Ashley, Foxholes Farm, Foxholes Road, Wilderswood, Horwich.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The water supply of the area is provided (1) from the Blackrod Reservoir by arrangement with Blackrod Urban District Council, and (2) from a tapping of the conduits taking the Manchester Supply from Thirlmere, by arrangement with the Manchester Corporation. The supplies are interchangeable and complementary.

In 1957 a chlorinating plant was installed at Harding Street Pumphouse, since which time samples of water taken have proved satisfactory. The Blackrod supply was already chlorinated and samples taken from that authority were consistently satisfactory.

During the year 3 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological analysis. All were reported to be highly satisfactory.

<u>Location</u>	<u>No.B.Coli per 100ml.</u>	<u>No.faecal coli per 100ml.</u>	<u>No.of non-faecal coli. per 100ml.</u>	<u>Analyst's remarks.</u>
Council Offices, Market Place.	0	0	0	Highly satisfactory.
Harding Street Pumphouse.	0	0	0	do.
13 Railway Road.	0	0	0	do.

Every house in the area has a "main supply". The average daily consumption was 140,000 gallons, which gives a consumption per head of the population of 34.73 gallons for all purposes.

Owing to the acute water shortage during the late summer and autumn the supply from Blackrod was cut off for 77 days, the whole of the supply being taken from Manchester Corporation's Thirlmere Aqueduct during that period.

Joint Water Board

Meetings have been held regarding the formation of a Water Board comprising Chorley Borough, Adlington, Blackrod, Horwich and Withnell Urban Districts, and Chorley Rural District, but nothing has yet been settled.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Only 58 outlying properties are not connected to the sewerage system. These have septic tanks. Sewerage^{disposal} is by precipitation and filtration over 3 coke filters at the Sewerage Disposal Works at Harrisons Farm. The effluent is discharged into the River Douglas. The sewage works was modernised in 1931. Further extensions are under consideration; the Council's Consulting Engineers have taken details of the sewage disposal works and sewers, and their report will be presented during 1960.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

1493 moveable ashbins are emptied weekly by the Local Authority. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two sites.

Cleansing of Drains and Closets.

Closet accommodation :-

Privy Middens - No. of Middens	...	...	10
No. of Closets attached thereto	...	...	12
No. of Pail Closets	...	...	1
No. of freshwater closets	...	...	1792
No. of waste water closets	...	...	2

The onus for the satisfactory maintenance of drains and closets is upon the property owners and such work is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Lavatories and Urinals.

There are public lavatories at the upper and lower Recreation Grounds, and modern Sanitary Conveniences at Station Road and Babylon Lane,. The Conveniences are cleaned daily by the Local Authority's staff. Trouble is still experienced because of the wilful damage that is persistently being done to the two modern sanitary conveniences.

Shops and Offices.

There are from 90-100 registered Shops in the area. No action was taken under the Shops Acts or Public Health Act, 1936 during the year. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the Shops Acts, your Public Health Inspector acting as their agent. The Public Health Inspector made 78 visits to these premises during the year.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the area.

Smoke Abatement.

No. of factory and Works chimneys in the area	...	4
No. of observations taken during the year	...	16

No legal proceedings were taken for excessive smoke emissions during the year, but personal contact with the firms and their boiler personnel was maintained by the Public Health Inspector.

Disinfestation of Houses.

One house was found to be slightly infested during the year 1959, and was treated with Pyrethum D.D.T. powder with satisfactory results.

Schools.

The water supply of the Schools is from the mains.

The following Schools are within the Urban District :-

Addington C.E. School.
St. Paul's C.E. School.
St. Paul's C.E. Infants School.

All the Schools have modern sanitary conveniences.

Other matters.

There are in the area no Common Lodging Houses or "Houses let in Lodgings" registered, no swimming baths or pools, no underground sleeping rooms, no premises where rag flock is manufactured, and no premises for the undertaking of offensive trades.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited	...	...	181
No. of visits made to above	...	...	274
No. of nuisances discovered	...	...	57
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	57
No. of informal notices served	...	...	19
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	...	2

There were no legal proceedings for the abatement of nuisances.

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year :-

(1)	By Local Authority	...	...	Nil
(2)	By other Local Authorities	...	...	Nil
(3)	By other bodies or persons	...	...	17

1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year.

(1)	(a)	Total No. of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	33
	(b)	No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	...	...	...	45
(2)		Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:				
	(a)	No. found during the year	...			Nil
	(b)	No. (or estimated no.) at end of year..				22
(3)		No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	35

2. Houses Demolished.

In Clearance Areas - (Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :

(1)	Houses unfit for human habitation	...	Nil
(2)	Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.		Nil
(3)	Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	...	Nil

Not in Clearance Areas

(4)	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	...	Nil
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3. Unfit Houses Closed.

(1)	Under Section 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957.	3
(2)	Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(3)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ...	Nil.

4. Unfit Houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority...	19	Nil
(2) After formal notice under -		
a. Public Health Acts	Nil	Nil
b. Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil
(3) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957).

Position at end of year :	No. of houses
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation	
(a) Under Section 48	Nil
(b) Under Section 17(2)	Nil
(c) Under Section 46	Nil
(2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53...	Nil

6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement.

Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased during the year

Nil

7. Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants etc.

	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwell. houses or other bldgs. affected.	No. of Schemes	No. of dwell. houses or other bldgs. affected.
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	1	1	-	-
(b) Approved by local authority	1	1	-	-
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	-	-	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	-
(e) Work completed	1	1	-	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	-	-	-	-

(g) Any other action taken under the Act

None.

8. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 - Standard Grants.

	Private Bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwell. houses or other bldgs. affected.	No. of Schemes	No. of dwell. houses or other bldgs. affected.
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	2	2	-	-
(b) Approved by local authority	2	2	-	-
(c) Work completed	-	-	-	-

It is expected that the number of applications for Standard Grants will increase during 1960.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

Houses built before 1914 are chiefly stone but some are brick with slated roofs, 2 or 3 bedroom terraced type mainly, without hot water systems or bathrooms etc. Prevailing defects are dampness. Most of the houses are well-built and well-maintained, many of them are now owner-occupied and have been modernised and this modernization is continuing steadily. There are 302 houses owned by the Council and just over 300 houses and shops with living accommodation which are not owner-occupied. A considerable amount of private housing development has taken place during the last two years, and more is planned for 1960. Most of this development consists of bungalows.

The County Council's Scheme for the Housing of the Aged, which includes the provision of welfare facilities for old people, has been considered by this Council but no decision has yet been reached. During this year the erection of 8 bungalows has been commenced. This project is being carried out by Mrs. Slater and Miss I. Slater in memory of the late John Slater M.P., and when completed, these dwellings will be handed over to the Council for occupation by old people.

Overcrowding or Housing Shortage.

During the year 40 applications for houses were received, 4 of these being from people living outside Adlington. 8 applications were for bungalows. Only 11 applicants living in Adlington were without a home of their own, these being young married couples.

There are no cases of overcrowding on the Council's housing list.

Rent Act, 1957.

Part II of the First Schedule.

No. of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	...	3
No. of Certificates issued	...	2
No. of Undertakings given by Landlords to remedy defects	...	1
No. of applications in which defects were remedied immediately after Local Authority's notice	...	-
No. of applications withdrawn	...	1
No. of Certificates of Disrepair revoked	...	2

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part I of the Act.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	23	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	17	32	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (exc. outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	27	55	-	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>No. of cases.</u>
Want of Cleanliness	...
Overcrowding	...
Unreasonable temperature	...
Inadequate ventilation	...
Ineffective drainage of floors	...
Sanitary Conveniences:	
a. insufficient	...
b. unsuitable or defective	...
c. not separate for sexes	...
Other offences against the Act (not relating to outwork)	...

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August List.	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing) Making apparel) etc. cleaning & washing.	1.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

In April 1956 the Milk (Special Designations)(Specified Areas) Order came into force, and so far as Adlington is concerned, retailers now sell only designated milk - Tuberculin-tested, Pastourised or Sterilised.

There are 3 producer-retailers with premises in Adlington and 4 retailers with premises outside the district retailing milk in Adlington. In addition, there are 4 shops licensed to sell Sterilized Milk.

(b) Meat.

There is only one licensed Slaughterhouse within the district, and this is only used in case of emergency.

There are 5 Butchers and one Por-k Butcher in the district, and 24 visits were made to these shops during the year, and to meat preparing premises.

(c) Other Foods.

Places where other foods are prepared, or kept for sale are inspected frequently by the Public Health Inspector.

There are 8 small bakehouses and 4 fried fish shops in the district - all are kept in a satisfactory condition.

46 inspections of places where food is prepared were made during the year by the Public Health Inspector.

The following list gives the number of food premises by type of business in the district at the end of the year under review :-

General Grocers and provision dealers	...	...	23
Green grocers and fruiterers (inc. fishmongers etc.)	...	...	8
Fishmongers (inc. poultry, game, etc.) only	...	...	-
Meat shops (butchers, cooked & Preserved meat etc.)	...	...	6
Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	...	9
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	4
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	...	...	10
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, cafes, snack bars.	...	...	18

Unsound Food.

During the year, the following food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption :-

Tinned vegetables	...	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Tinned spaghetti	...	3 "
Tinned soups	...	25 "
Tinned fruit	...	266 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Tinned meat	...	126 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Tinned tomatoes	...	30 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Tinned fish	...	5 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Tinned milk	...	4 $\frac{1}{8}$ "
Tinned Dairy Cream	...	2 "
Tinned evaporated milk	...	49 $\frac{1}{4}$ "

Ice-Cream

Ice-cream retailed throughout the district is confined to pre-packed standard brands.

Food Hygiene Regulations

86 visits have been made to food premises during the year, and it is encouraging to find that the retailers are, on the whole, doing everything they can to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and in no case has it been necessary to resort to statutory action.

RODENT CONTROL

The following table gives the work done during the year.

Type of Property

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural.	All other inc. business prem:	Total
Total no. of properties in Local Authority's District	8	1450	14	148	1620
No. of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1959 as a result of (a) Notification (b) Survey or otherwise	(a) -	13	-	-	13
	(b) 8	52	14	26	100
No. of properties inspected (see above) found to be infested with Rats	Major -	-	-	-	-
	Minor 2	9	-	-	11
No. of properties inspected (see above) found to be seriously infested with Mice.	-	-	-	-	-
No. of Block Control schemes carried out.	nil				

PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year the following cases were notified :-

		<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>
Measles	...	53	1
Scarlet Fever	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	-	-
Dysentery	...	-	7
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	2	-

As will be seen from the above Table, there were two cases of Poliomyelitis notified during the year, both of whom made good recoveries. In addition there was one death of an infant from this cause, but the case was not notified. None of these cases had been vaccinated against Poliomyelitis.

It is gratifying to note that this is the 15th successive year without a Diphtheria case notified.

Tuberculosis

Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were added to the Register during the year, as against one in 1958. One of these cases was a transfer into Adlington from the Glasgow area.

The total number of cases on the Register at the end of the year was 16, of which 9 were pulmonary tuberculosis and 7 were non-pulmonary.

